1: Jenness-19 (1913-16) 1922 Copper Eskimo
116, 487

"The generally accepted route of travel on the Coppermine is to go up the west side of the river for some indefinite distance, usually twenty to forty miles, then strike southwest for Dismal lake (Tasirpik), and then south to Lake Rouvier (Imernek), and west to Great Bear lake (Imaryuak). Some of those who this year (i.e. 1916) went to Great Bear lake told me they would return to near the northwest corner of Dismal lake, swing north and even west from there and come back to the Coppermine near its mouth. In all about eighty Eskimos left the mouth of the river this year for inland and of these about half left the main party at various times after ten miles up the river and went west. These said they were going to the places where they found copper. The two latter parties would probably meet at some time before fall.

A party of three or four families from the Tree river also went inland. They said they would follow up the west branch of the Tree river to where it headed near the Coppermine and then go overland to the Coppermine where they expected to meet and trade with the Indians. These are presumably Dog Rib Indians from Fort Rae. They expected to be gone until the snow was on the ground and to bring wood in addition to the lead and powder they would get from the Indians.

The party from the Tree river left the coast just a few days before the snow left. The party from the mouth of the Coppermine did not leave the coast until the snow was nearly all gone. Both parties were packing with their dogs."

1: Jenness--19-20 (1913-16) 1922 Copper Eskimo
116, 133, 487

"The route up the west side of the Coppermine is one of easy travel. Long, gentle, grassy tundra slopes to low rolling country offer no difficulties to either packing with dogs or travel with toboggan. The usual travel is some distance back from the river, and before they strike for Dismal lake, no creeks with steep gullies are met. Travelling toward Dismal lake, the country is level with a good deal of swampy tundra until one commences to climb the long slopes of the so-called Copper mountains. These mountains, which attain an elevation of probably not more than 1,500 feet, are in reality a long series of basalt terraces. Since they occupy a belt of about fifteen miles wide and the terraces are numerous and low, the general effect is of a long gentle slope on the north with a somewhat steeper and more irregular slope to the south. Dismal lake lies just south of this ridge.(1)

"1. The Rev. H. Girling writes that 'The Eskimos go up the Coppermine to where a line of cliffs running inland comes to an end in a round hill with a definite cutting on the east side. This hill is known as Kolukhuk, and from its summit the Dismal lakes are clearly visible. The natives follow the hills to a gully, which leads them to the lakes."

From Dismal lake to Lake Rouvier, the country is more rugged, but there are at least two recognized routes to Lake Rouvier, both of them following the gentle sloping valleys of creeks which have numerous lakes. These valleys offer good feeding and hunting grounds for caribou, and the lakes probably contain fish. [20]

Lake Rouvier is the source of what may be considered as the east branch of the Dease river. The route crosses the lake, then cuts east over a low and gently sloping ridge of tundra hills to the south side of the valley of the main Dease river. It follows this to the 'Garche' hills, crossing the southeast branch of the Dease at 'Big Stick island' and from the 'Garche' hills, which are some fifteen miles east of Great Bear lake, the route goes through the timber to the lake.

With straight travel the above route would occupy about ten or twelve days. The Eskimos of course have to sustain themselves during the trip, and it takes them longer. It would seem that they usually leave the coast with enough dried meat for three or four days."

(1913-16) 1922 Copper Eskimo

"One route, the main one perhaps, to the Akilinnik [Thelon] river and the Eskimos of the interior, has its starting point in Bathurst inlet. Mr. Stefansson, influenced perhaps by Hanbury's account, has stated that the Copper Eskimos begin their overland route from Ogden bay. Hanbury certainly found Eskimos in that neighbourhood who were on their way to the Akilinnik, and others whom he had actually met on that river in 1899. No doubt the more eastern people do take this route, the Asiagmiut for example, and perhaps some of the Kanghiryuarmiut and Ekaluktomiut as well; but the natives of the east end of Coronation gulf usually start from Bathurst inlet. Sometimes they leave in winter and make the journey by sled, carrying seal-blubber for fuel and living on caribou and musk-oxen; sometimes in summer, packing their goods and provisions on their backs. One old man, the shaman Ilatsiak, had visited the Akilinnik no less than three times, crossing in early winter and returning the following spring. He lived on caribou, he said, and instead of seal-blubber used caribou fat for fuel and light. Their supplies, however, frequently ran out, and then they would sit crouched up on their skins, shivering with the cold. The inland natives, he said, frequently endure the same hardships.

Victoria island natives sometimes follow the same route, for a Kilusiktok Eskimo informed me that many Ekaluktomiut had come to his country on their way to the Akilinnik. A more easterly route, used perhaps by the Asiak natives, follows the course

of the Ellice river. (1) No Indians are even encountered between the coast and the Akilinnik, and usually no Eskimos either, though sometimes the northern people meet the Backs river natives, since the Backs or Saningaiyok river is only six days' journey from the sea at Bathurst inlet. Ilatsiak said that it has five tributaries, and that finally it enters the country of Ukkusiksalik, somewhere east of Kilusiktok, but more distant probably than Netsilik."

"1. Cf. the Report of the Bathurst Inlet Patrol."

"The second route which the northern Eskimos follow is inland to Lake Tahiryuak, which is roughly about ten miles in diameter and studded with islands of every shape and size. It lies approximately in lat. 69° 50´N. and long. 112° W. Several families of the northern natives usually come here each summer to meet the Puivlik Eskimos from the south, though sometimes they meet about thirty miles to the southwest at the small lake of Numikhoin in the Colville hills. (1) In the summer of 1915 we waited several days at this latter place hoping that they would join us; when they failed to appear we went on to Lake Tahiryuak, where we met two families that had just arrived from Prince Albert sound."

"1. In December, 1914, a Puivlik Eskimo promised to guide me to the Kanghiryuarmiut the following spring. It was too cold to cross the hills in winter, he said, while the route round the coast (via Cape Baring) was too long."

"Returning to the northwestern natives -- those inhabiting the regionsof Prince Albert sound and Minto inlet -- there were three routes at least by which they communicated with their southern and eastern neighbours. Some of them used to follow round the coast past Cape Baring and meet the Eskimos of Dolphin and Union strait in the neighbourhood of Cape Hamilton early in the spring, about April. Captain Klengenberg fell in with them near this place in the winter of 1905-6, and in the spring of 1915, when I travelled along the coast to Cape Kendall, some Prince Albert sound natives were camped only a few miles farther north, as we learned a few months later. The Hanerak natives, when that group still existed, and the natives from Akulliakattak across the strait, regularly fell back in this direction in the spring of the year after they had associated with the Puivlik and Noahognik Eskimos east of them and come into contact there with visitors from Coronation gulf; and although the Hanerak group is now dispersed, the Akulliakattak natives still often return to the neighbourhood of Point Williams before crossing the strait to their own country. Nor was it only their kinsmen of Dolphin and Union strait that the Kanghiryuak natives encountered here, but apparently western Eskimos as well. On Bell island, close to Cape Kendall, Captain Jos. Bernard found some stone cairns used as graves, and the ruins of three old sod houses [51] that formerly had wooden frames. In two similar ruins that he found at the bottom of Lady Richardson bay, some 800 yards from the beach beside a stream, the posts

were still partially preserved; they were made of driftwood logs split into halves, the original diameters of the logs being about two feet. Cape Hamilton is visible from Wise point on a clear day, and we know from the traditions of the Copper Eskimos that they frequently met the western natives at Wise point. It seems very probable therefore that some of the western natives crossed over to Victoria island to meet the northern people, and spent the winter there, building from logs of driftwood houses of wood and sod like those they used in their own country; for we can hardly attribute these remains to the Copper Eskimos, who are, or were until recently, entirely unfamiliar with dwellings of this character."

1: Jenness--53
116, 487

(1913-16) 1922

Copper Eskimo

"The third route that these northern natives follow in the maintenance of trade relations is eastward. According to Mr. Stefansson they ascend a river named Kagloryuak at the head of Prince Albert sound, cross a divide and descend the Ekaluktok river to Albert Edward bay. Somewhere in this region they meet the Ekaluktomiut, and a few of them sometimes journey south to Ogden bay on the mainland and make their way to the Akilinnik river. Some of them, no doubt, do follow this route at times, but since both the Ekaluktok and the Kanghiryuak natives visit the Bathurst inlet people by way of Dease strait, it would seem reasonable to suppose that there is a shorter route overland, probably from the deep inlet on the south side of Albert Edward bay to Cambridge bay or perhaps even Anderson bay, whence they could either turn west into Dease strait or south to the Ellice river. (1) Somewhere on the divide between the Kagloryuak and the Ekaluktok rivers there must be a regular meeting place between the two groups, for the son of a Prince Albert sound woman whom we met at Lake Tahiryuak visited the Ekaluktomiut somewhere inland one summer, and was drowned a few weeks later on his way back."

"1. But see the appendix, where this subject is discussed in the light of more recent information."

11: Stefansson--189 (1908-1912) 1913 Copper Eskimo
116, 487, 361

"The afternoon before we started, there had been a dance in the snow assembly-house, followed first by a supper of boiled seal-meat and blood soup, and they by a conference on how we should go about finding the village we wanted to visit, for finding the nearest Eskimo village is not always the simple matter it is to go from the city to a suburban town. The villages, to begin with, are never permanent, nor are they built in any recognized places, and blizzards may nearly or quite obliterate the trails that show which way the traveling parties have gone."

11: Stefansson--215
116, 133, 487

(1908-1912) 1913

Copper Eskimo

"Dismal Lake....is one lake extending in a general east-and-west direction, with a length of about thirty-six miles, and the width varying from four or more miles down to a hundred yards or so. At the point where we struck the lake it is filled with willow-covered islands. Here we knew from Eskimo report that a ford existed, but the Eskimo who cross by it every year put up no guide-posts, and no trails are visible, so that it took me half a day of wading back and forth before the ford was discovered."

11: Stefansson--298
116, 132, 487

(1908-1912) 1913

Copper Eskimo

"From 'land sky' (1) ahead it seems that we are nearing Cape Baring--the land sky curves south a little west of us."

"1. When clouds of a uniform color hang low there is reflected in them a map of the earth below them. Snow-free land and open water are shown in black on the clouds; the pure white sea ice appears in white, and land covered with snow soiled by blown sand, etc., is reflected darker than the sea but lighter than snowless land. This sky map is of the greatest use to sledge travelers always, and especially in crossing wide bays from headland to headland; where the landmarks themselves are below the horizon their position is accurately indicated by their reflection in the clouds."

29: Jenness E-5 (1914-1916) 1959
ND8 Copper Eskimo ND8

224 range. Chilled with the cold, we left our hiding-place and approached them from another direction. Ikpuck crawled near enough to shoot one of them in the leg; but his bullet inflicted only a flesh-wound, and the caribou with its mate galloped quickly out of sight.

Thus all day misfortune dogged our footsteps. We travelled perhaps thirty miles after our light breakfast at 7 A.M., and by nine o'clock in the evening I was [487] almost exhausted. Then, as we wearily climbed the crest of a ridge, we came upon three fresh snow-blocks that our companions had placed in line to direct us to their new camp. Ikpuck passed them by with a brief glance; he refused to turn back empty-handed when caribou surrounded us on every side, and wished to continue the chase indefinitely, even though we slept on the uncovered snow. But I was less jealous of my reputation as a hunter, and with some difficulty persuaded him to accompany me to camp.

226 [361] Our companions had pitched their tents beside the first lake within the Colville Hills, a lake that abounded in two kinds of fish, lake trout and lake salmon, although it was only half a mile in diameter. Men, women, and children, scattered over its surface, were industriously chiselling holes through the thick ice or jigging their lines in the water below. The caribou meat in their camp had lost its attraction; they wanted to dine on fresh fish, which no one had tasted for six [252] months. In less than two hours they hauled seven

29: Jenness E-5 (1914-1916) 1959
ND8 Copper Eskimo ND8

almost devoid of vegetation. We stumbled over a bed of dolomite split by frost into rectangular blocks, its resemblance to the floor of an ancient temple heightened by two stone pillars erected several years before to support a kayak or hunting canoe. A mile or two beyond a caribou caught our scent, whisked up its tail, and bounded out of sight behind a low ridge. We could see a fair-sized stream in the distance tumbling among the rocks; and there Ikpuck instructed us to camp while he pursued the caribou that had just disappeared. Twelve hours later, when every one was asleep, he returned, and, pushing open the door of my tent, displayed the skins of two caribou; their carcasses he had left side by side for the women to bring in, merely aligning some boulders on top of a knoll to guide them in their search. Icehouse and Jennie dressed and departed immediately with dogs and packlines. The howling of the other dogs aroused the camp, and a second party went out to look for more caribou. So, for one reason and another, we lingered in this spot nearly three days.

Instead of hunting during this interval, I made a collection of all the plants growing around us, and enjoyed two swims in a neighbouring pool. A bath is a rare luxury in the Arctic, where there is often no water to wash even the face and hands. My companions solved the problem by never washing. Contact with the snow in winter purified them, and in